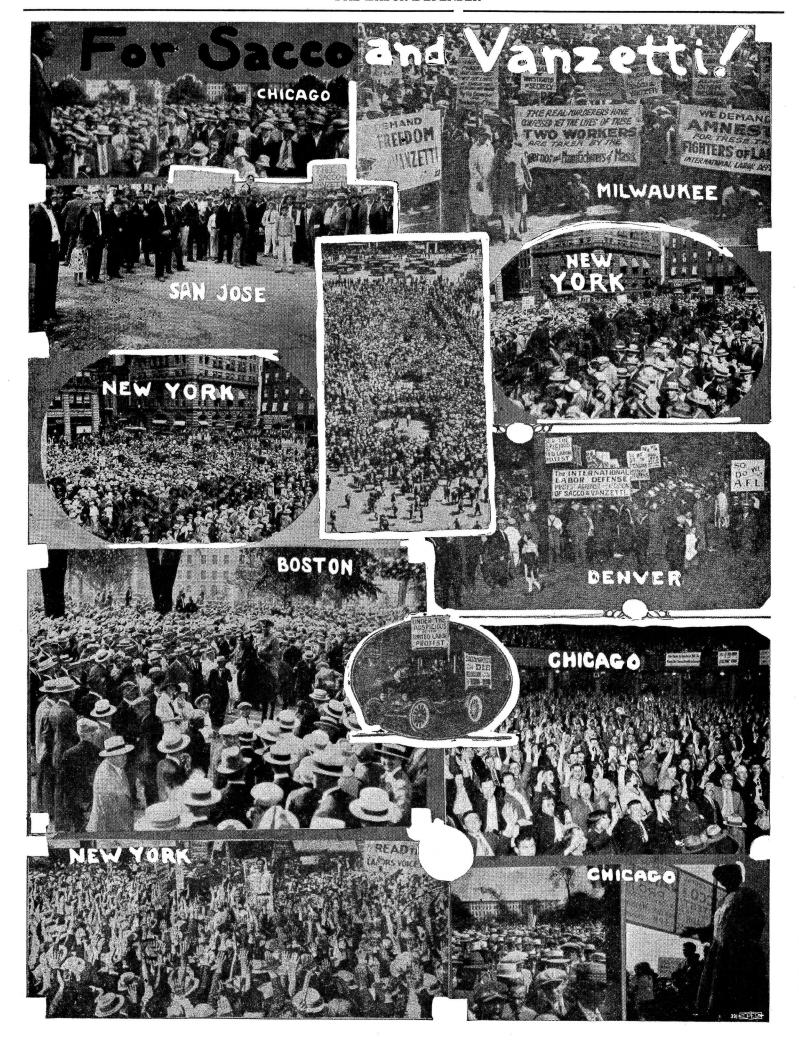
BOR DEFENDER





NEVER in the history of the world has the cause of two men raised such universal interest and sympathetic support among the broad millions of humanity as has the cause of those two once obscure Italian workers of Massachusetts, Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti. And this is not due to chance, or a combination of accidental circumstances. On the contrary, there are profound reasons for this amazing situation.

Sacco and Vanzetti have become a symbol of many things distinctly American. Theirs is not merely the cause of two men, for they become a fighting banner around which the people everywhere have rallied. They stand for the fight of the American worker against the prosperously reactionary ruling class. They stand for the struggle of the foreign-born worker in this

country against the prejudices, obstacles and persecutions that he must face at every turn. They stand for the movement that fights the brutally cynical American frame-up system. Their courageous battle for freedom is a bitter whip that lashes to rags the respectable garments of the American capitalist courts and judges—the whole machinery of capitalist class laws and legal

forms—so that the entire world may see revealed the hideousness of its corrupt and rotten body. Their calm determination and unyielding loyalty to the cause for which they are victimized over-cautious gentleman who stifle and is a rebuke to the cynic and to those make sluggish the fresh and powerful waters of the class movement with the unctuous oil of stagnating moderation and respectability. For Sacco and Vanzetti above all symbolize the militant class fight of the workers, the placing of all faith and confidence in the great and irresistible strength of the mobilized masses.

That is why the millions have made themselves a living wall of defense is a rebuke to the cynic and to those around Sacco and Vanzetti. Even the least conscious of the masses realize, however vaguely, that the cause of these Continued on page 143



## "Friends" of Sacco and Vanzetti

The Liberal New York "World" and the Labor Leader, Mr. Green

T has become the fashion almost, in many circles, to drop a "kindly" word for Sacco and Vanzetti, to express a mild and not too certain doubt as to their guilt. This is especially true in the case of the liberals and mild progressives who were forced by the movement organized among the masses to declare a favorable position on the issue. For the workers, whose every interest is bound up with the cause of Sacco and Vanzetti, it is necessary to learn who are the friends of the two Italian fighters, upon what strength they must rely, what weaknesses and obstacles they must overcome to win a decisive victory.

In the many years of struggle for the liberation of Sacco and Vanzetti, tens of thousands of workers have learned this: that there is one power that is irresistible, one upon which they can rely for base, militancy and strength—the organized might of theworking masses.

They have learned that the liberals, with their counsels for moderation and exclusive reliance upon the essentially just nature of the courts and the machinery of the law, with their faith in the efficacy of wire-pulling, interviews, have accomplished nothing but the weakening of the movement for Sacco and Vanzetti. The liberals, inside and outside the labor movement, have only spread illusions in the ranks of the workers, and kept them acquiescent and in leash until the last moment when the executioners reach out to turn the telectric swith of death.

The virtual discharge from the New York World of Heywood Broun, the noted publicist who conducts a column in the paper every day is a striking case in point. The New York World has posed for a number of years as a supporter of the cause of Sacco and Vanzetti. It has expressed serious doubts on the fairness of the trial; it has criticized the prejudiced conduct of Judge Thayer; it has printed numerous articles calling for a review in court of the case. In the eyes of many, the World was an outstanding champion of the two convicted workers. Certainly, it typified the position of hundreds of liberals who have been associated with, or supported, the Sacco-Vanzetti case.

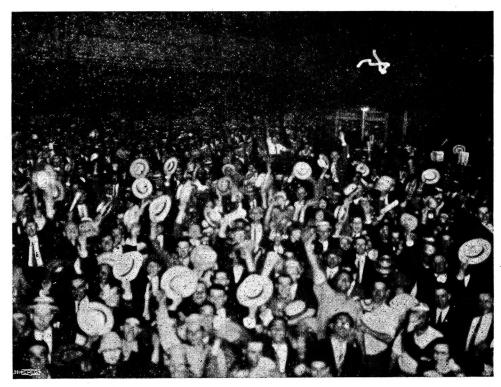
When the decision of Governor Fuller was made to murder Sacco and Vanzetti, the World changed its tune. The entire gamut of capitalist laws, institutions and puppets had been run. There

was no other course left but to submit to the decisions of the courts and the governor. No one shall dare to sacrilegiously challenge the integrity or justice of the courts. This was the swan song of the World's "fight" for Sacco and Vanzetti. And it became even sharper after the splendid mass demonstrations and strikes that took place all over the world.

Then the mask was completely torn from its face by the statement of Ralph Pulitzer, the editor, on the articles writauthority of a high priest or a Pilate. . . . What more can these immigrants from Italy expect? It is not every prisoner who has a president of Harvard University throw on the swith for him."

Pulitzer replied to these sharply true words with a declaration in the World:

"The World has always believed in allowing the fullest possible expression of individual opinion to those of its special writers who write under their own names. Straining



Thousands of demonstrators in the streets of Chicago following a huge mass meeting in Ashland Auditorium for Sacco and Vanzetti.

ten by Heywood Broun. The latter had said in his column:

"The men in Charlestown prison are shining spirits, and Vanzetti has spoken with an eloquence not known elsewhere within our time. They are too bright; we shield our eyes and kill them. We are the dead, and in us there is not feeling or imagination nor the terrible torment of lust for justice.

"Governor Fuller never had any intention in all his investigation but to put a new and higher polish upon the proceedings. The justice of the business was not his concern. He hoped to make it respectable. He called old men from high places to stand behind his chair so that he might seem to speak with all the

its interepretation of this privilege, the World allowed Mr. Heywood Broun to write two articles on the Sacco-Vanzetti case, in which he expressed his personal opinion with the utmost extravagance.

"The World then instructed him, now that he had made his own position clear, to select other subjects for his next articles. Mr. Broun, however, continued to write on the Sacco-Vanzetti case. The World, thereupon, exercizing its right of final decision as to what it will publish in its columns has omitted all articles submitted by Mr. Broun."

The miserable role played by the World and those that have followed the same course is now thoroughly clear. They have tried to blind the

movement to its task, to delude the masses with the belief that the drive for Sacco and Vanzetti must be made only within the machinery of the law. Now, at the eleventh hour, they appear in their true light. They have been the agents of the Massachusetts bourbons finside the ranks of the mass movement. They have worked to undermine its real strength, to sap its militancy, to misdirect its power, to rob it of its vitality.

The open and unconcealed enemies of Sacco and Vanzetti, toward whom no worker looks for aid, are less dangerous to the movement than these so-called liberals who play the role of traducers and betrayers of the cause and movement of Sacco and Vanzetti.

There is another menace to the movement. It is the course being followed by another group of "friends" of Sacco and Vanzetti, which does not demand life and freedom for them but rests upon the plea for commutation of sentence. While the entire working class, in this country and all over the world, is fighting bitterly to free Sacco and Vanzetti, because it is convinced of their innocence, because it realizes that this is an issue of the workers against their class enemy, the capitalists, the president of the American Federation of Labor, William Green, has issued a statement asking



About to take off in an airpline used in Chicago to advertise the Sacco and Vanzetti demonstration.

merely for commutation of sentence and disassociating the labor movement from Sacco and Vanzetti.

But no individual or group of individuals can disassociate the labor move-

#### CRIMINAL SYNDICALISM

The noted Chicago attorney, William Holly, and Harry Gannes are the authors of a pamphlet being prepared for International Labor Defense on the "Criminal Syndicalism" laws that are already on the statute books of the majority of the States of the union. The vicious anti-labor character of these laws will be dealt with in detail by the authors who are eminently capable of treating the subject. Orders for the pamphlet may be sent for now to International Labor Defense, 23 S. Lincoln St., Chicago, Illinois. The price per single copy will probably be fifteen cents. No worker should fail to read it.



A group of arrested demonstrators for Sacco and Vanzetti in court. Arrow indicates attorney D. J. Benteall, of the International Labor Defense.

ment from Sacco and Vanzetti, who are a part of it, and symbols of its struggle for liberation. Nor can the reactionary labor leaders swing the movement of the millions from its course of struggle, and into the legal lobbying and fawning to secure a commutation. Commutation is for those who have been proved guilty of crime, or for whose guilt there is a slight doubt.

Commutation is a plea for mercy. But we have not a figment of doubt of the innocence of the two brave fighters. We know that they committed only the crime of fighting for their class.

We do not ask for mercy for Sacco and Vanzetti from the corrupt reacctionaries of Massachusetts. We call upon the workers to exert their invincible power to obtain their release so that they can rejoin actively the ranks from which they were seized.

Commutation for Sacco and Vanzetti means a living death. Commutation for Sacco and Vanzetti can be asked for only by those who are trying to strangle the movement that has been created for our two comrades. Such requests come not from the friends of Sacco and Vanzetti, but from their enemies.

Those who fight for Sacco and Vanzetti, those who expose the great fraud of courts and judges, those who indicate the class character of the entire case, and organize a mighty labor movement on that basis—those are the friends of Sacco and Vanzetti. Only clarity on this score, and determination to rid the movement of its worst enemies, will give the working class the strength, the

firmness and direction that alone will vindicate Sacco and Vanzetti.

#### Anthony Pochno

International Labor Defense Chicago, Illinois

Dear Sir:

I acknowledge the receipt of the sum of five (\$5.00) dollars and I thank you, Sir, for same.

I am in the best of health considering the circumstances and am still living in hopes.

Enclosed please find signed slip as per directed.

Thanking you again, I remain,
Respectfully yours,
Anthony Pochno.

#### THE LABOR DEFENDER

SEPT. 1927

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National Committee.

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## Two Letters

"... Brothers, Comrades, you are the only ones that can save us."

—Sacco.

"... Governor Alvan T. Fuller is a murderer."

-Vanzetti.

WHEN the decision of Gov. Fuller supposedly based upon the findings of his "impartial" committee, was made public, both Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti, for whom the governor's decision meant that they had now, at last, finally been placed in the chair of death, wrote to their friends two letters which, save for the powerful and significant effect of the immediate action of the masses throughout the world, might have become the last words written to their friends and to the hosts of millions everywhere on earth.

These two letters, which we reproduce below (as well as photographically) are magnificently courageous challenges to the class hatred and murder conspiracies of the forces that have forced them, for seven years, to undergo a most cruel torture, the torture of the Pit and the Pendulum, the living death of indecision and suspense from which one often seeks an escape in the final extermination.

To read these letters is to understand the amazing fortitude that has enabled them to live through the malicious persecutions of their tormentors, the unflagging hope born out of faith in the power of the class from which they came and in which, if the masses but will it, they will still be found as active fighters. They, at least, have never had any illusions about the character of the men and institutions with which

Gugust 4, 1927
From the rest hours
Governor Alvan Es talleris a amendror
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brut the three carborn boay to have
no Escuse to save us.

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the proofs of our innocente and
insult us and amender us We are inhoused
This is the war of plutocracy against
libert, against the people.
We obie for anarcy, doing life anarcy,

they had to deal. They have known all the time that they are victims of a vengeful machine that has seized them and from whose hold only the strong arm of their class can release them.

The contemptuous manner in which they so correctly characterize the miserable "heroes" of an hour who presume to pass judgment upon them, will be attached to the names of their traducers when all else about them will have been forgotten by man or history.

Charlestown State Prison, August 4, 1927.

My Dear Friends and Comrades:

In the death cell we are just informed from the defense committee that Gov-

ernor Fuller has decided to kill us August the 10th. We are not surprised by this news because we know the capitalist class is hard without mercy to the good soldiers of the revolution.

We are proud of death and fall as all the Anarchists fall. It is up to you now, brothers, comrades, as I have told you yesterday, that you are the only ones that can save us, because we have never had faith in the Governor. For we have always known that the Governor Fuller, Thayer, and Katzman are the murderers.

With warm fraternal regards to all, Nicola Sacco.

From the Death House, August 4, 1927.

Governor Alvan T. Fuller is a murderer, as Thayer, Katzman, the state perjurers and all the others. He shakes hands with me like a brother, makes me believe he was honest-intentioned and that his killing of the three car-barn boys was not so as to have no precedent to save us.

Now, ignoring and denying all the proofs of our innocence, he insults us and murders us. We are innocent.

This is the war of plutocracy against liberty, against the people. We die for Anarchy. Long life to anarchy.

Bartolomeo Vanzetti.



Governor Fuller (LEFT) and the members of the "star chamber" investigation committee he appointed.



## Class Against Class in the Sacco ar

A S THIS NUMBER of the Labor Defender goes to press (August 16, 1927) the final issue in the Sacco-Vanzetti case is impending. The danger appears greater than ever before and the lives of the heroic labor fighters hang in the balance. This warning against false hopes and illusions and a call to new work and struggles must be the keynote of every word addressed to the masses in these fateful days.

There is nothing in the new developments, in the short respite, to warrant their being taken as anything but a maneuver to quiet the protest movement and, by taking advantage of the parralysis in the movement created by false hopes and groundless illusions, to carry out the murderous designs of the enemies of the two fighters. The workers who have fought so well for Sacco and Vanzetti must understand the danger and guard against it.

The most important thing now is to examine the situation and to draw the necessary conclusions. Unless this is done, the movement will not be able to steer clearly between the rocks of illusions and passivity.

The eleventh hour reprieve for Sacco and Vanzetti was brought about by the thunderous clamor of the laboring masses of the world who demonstrated their international working class solidarity in an imposing manner. It did not for a moment mean, as some naive people believe, that the Massachusetts Bourbons whose whole energy is bent on continuing their horrible torture of Sacco and Vanzetti until they can safely destroy them in the electric chair, have experienced any change of heart. On the contrary, the reprieve only enabled them to create most dangerous illusions and to gain for themselves some relief from the aroused world's millions.

To believe otherwise is to fall victim to just those illusions that the reactionaries are anxious to spread. Not to realize that this lastest action is a maneuver to gain time, during which to demoralize and split and weaken the protest movement is to fail to see the fundamental question involved. Those who from the beginning had seen the class issue in the case, and based their activities and confidence on the mass movement of the workers were entirely correct, and all events have proved this.

The strike movement, in which millions everywhere participated, has opened a new page in the development of the American working class. Even the sporadic beginnings made in the use of this great weapon in a political cause, in spite of and against the opposition or indifference of the official labor leaders in most cases, is fraught with profound significance. It demonstrates the irresistible power that lies in the organized working class, spurred on by the spirit of solidarity.

The case has always been an issue of the class struggle and not merely one of an exceptional miscarriage of socalled justice. The Massachusetts Bourbons know this well, and they recognize the magnificent protest movement as a distinctly class

movement against which there must be, and is being, organized a counter campaign.

First there is a new delay of a few days ostensibly for the purpose of providing for further legal deliberations (after seven years!) but in reality to instil the masses with the illusion of hopes from the courts that have prejudged the case. It is a delay calculated to sap the strength of the protest movement and make it more easy for the executioners to carry out their plans of death.

Then there is the worn-out trick of "bomb" plants, which of course never hurt anyone, and which gives Governor Fuller the opportunity to express "indignation" and "regret" at such "horrible deeds"—the same Governor Fuller who coldly and deliberately already put the seal of approval on the burning alive of Sacco and Vanzetti. This

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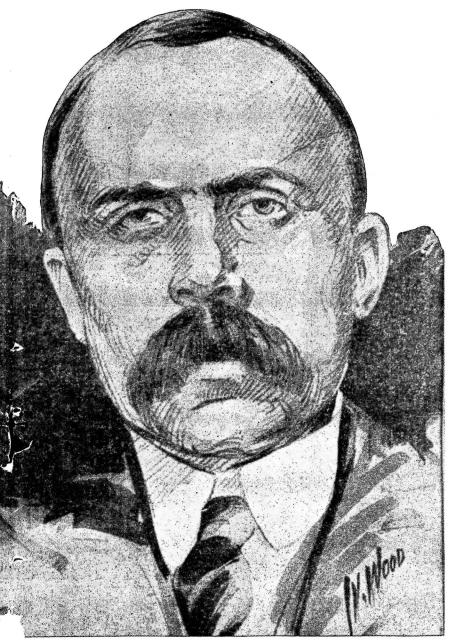
NICOLA SACCO AND B

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If we add to these developments the attempt of a number of the capitalist-liberal elements who joined the movement only to betray it at the critical moment, shown by the suppression of Heywood Broun's articles in the New York World and the change of tone in other capitalist papers;



OLOMEO VANZETTI

Drawing by W. Wood, in the Boston Advertiser

#### By James P. Cannon

and the threats of Congressman Johnson and Secretary of Labor Davis against all foreign-born workers for participation in the Sacco and Vanzetti movement, we can see that the whole machinery of reaction is being mobilized for the counter-campaign which is a combination of trickery and force, illusion and coercion. The new developments bring out with crystal clearness the class issue in the case, the fact that the exploiters are launching all their forces against the movement of the workers which alone stands between Sacco and Vanzetti and the chair of death.

We have no grounds for the belief that there has been the slightest change of plan by the executioners. On the contrary they are conspiring against our comrades with the same malice and working with feverish speed to consummate the assassination. It is true that the case is now before the judges of the Supreme Court. But this gives us no hopes for it has been there before and we know what to expect from that source.

The working masses have a deep conviction of solidarity toward Sacco and Vanzetti, and they know that even the illusory respite was granted only because of the menacing protest of the workers. We must therefore confidently proceed at all costs to still further arouse and organize the anger of the working men and women against the slaughter of the two labor fighters and assist it to take the form of huge mass demonstrations and effective strikes.

That is the great task in the coming days: to put all our energy, militancy and courage up to the last minute into the strike movement and the mass demonstrations. We depend for this on the work of the men in the ranks, those class conscious militants who have been working steadily and quietly, often in the face of calumny, to organize and build the magnificent protest movement. We must work swiftly. All brakes on the movement must be regarded as the greatest danger. All illusions which paralyze the movement must be overcome. All agents of the bosses who try to sabotage and discredit the protest and strike movement must be given their proper name and exposed.

Only a few fateful days remain. But there is still time, if we are able to disperse the illusions that have been created, to mobilize the power of the workers which is for us the court of last resort to which our appeal must be made. Only to the extent that we understand this elementary fact will our work in the remaining days have the possibility of success.

No faith in capitalist justice and institutions! That is the lesson of history confirmed by every development in the Sacco and Vanzetti case.

Organize the protest movement on a wider scale and with more determined spirit!

Remember the Haymarket martyrs! Remember Mooney and Billings! Remember the other class war prisoners!

Demonstrate for Sacco and Vanzetti! Strike a blow for freedom!

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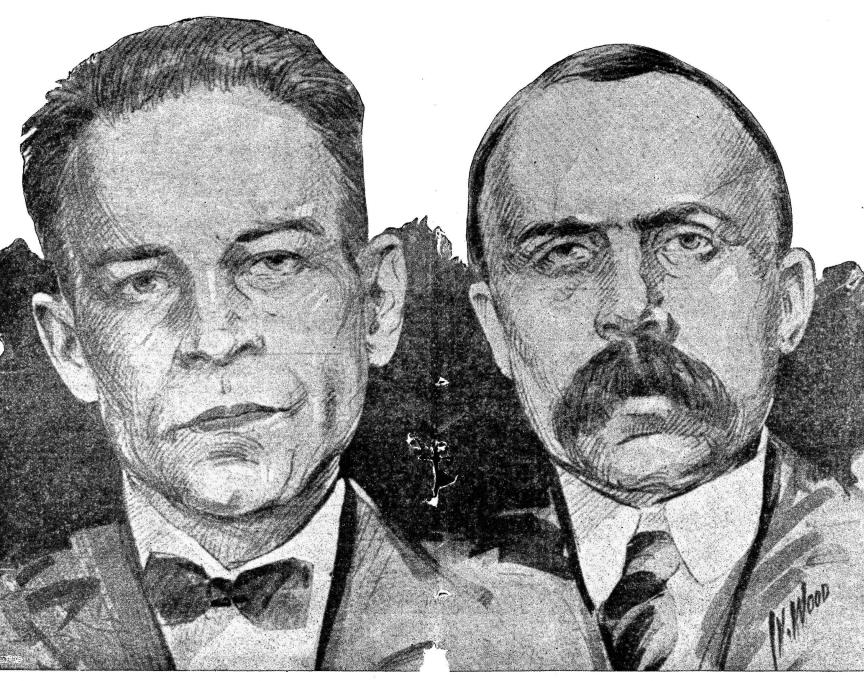
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### The Workers' World Demands--

Give Life and Freedom to Our Comrades, Sacco and Vanzetti

E continue this month to give further proof of the universal demand for life and freedom for Sacco and Vanzetti in the form of protests, resolutions, demonstrations, strikes, personal appeals, newspaper opinions, etc., etc.

\* \*

Open air demonstrations and indoor meetings held, after the decision of Governor Fuller, in Chicago, New York, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Boston, Cleveland, Duluth, Great Falls, Martins Ferry, San Jose, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Buffalo, Utica, Lake Placid, Plymouth (Mass.), Minneapolis, St. Paul, Omaha, St. Louis, Milwaukee, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Denver, Bellaire, and dozens of other cities.

Strike of Barbers' Union, local 913, (New York) for full day for Sacco and Vanzetti.

Parade of more than 3,000 miners in Pittston, Pa.

Demonstration in Lyons (France) fired on by police who wounded four.

Fourth Congress of the International Federation of Trade Unions, meeting in Paris, cabled Fuller demanding liberation.

Cable to Fuller from Robert Underwood Johnson, former U. S. ambassador to Italy, now in Paris.

General strike of half million workers in New York City.

Strike of thousands of Tampa (Florida) cigar workers.

General protest strike in Rosario (Argentine) while local American institutions are guarded by military and police.

Cabled protests of H. G. Wells, John Galsworthy, and other prominent English writers.

Appeal to American workers to strike for Sacco and Vanzetti by Trade Union Educational League.

Huge mass meeting in Trafalgar Square organized by International Class War Prisoners Aid (Great Britain).

Twenty-hour hour protest strike in Paris. Announcement made by Communist daily L'Humanite warning that American Legion will meet interference and difficulties in holding convention in Paris if Sacco and Vanzetti are executed.

Mass meeting in Mexico City decided for boycott of all American goods.

National congress of Uruguay sends cabled resolution appealing for justice for two radical workers.

Police break up protest meeting in Bing-hampton, N. Y.

Waterbury, Connecticut, conference of labor organizations decides for protest strike.

Labor groups, to the number of 186, join together in Philadelphia for protest strike.

Sacco-Vanzetti conference committee in Pittston, Pa., issues call urging all miners to strike for short time in protest.

Newark (N. J.) parade for Sacco and Vanzetti broken up by police.

Dozens of street rallies of International Labor Defense in Chicago broken up in one night by swift police raids.

State Cossacks break up Sacco and Vanzetti meeting in Scranton, Pa.

More than 4,000 miners in Southern Colorado in protest strike.

Mass strike of waterfront workers in New

York in 24-hour protest, led by the Waterfront Joint Strike Committee.

Police disperse protest meeting of students held on their campus at City College of New York.

Demonstrations under leadership of Young Communist League in Amsterdam, urging general strike for Sacco and Vanzetti, broken up by the police, American consulate under police guard.

Norwegian trade unions organized nationwide protest mass meetings.

Finnish workers' ntaional organization and executive of the social democrats cable protest to U. S. government.

Strong force of police finally beats back demonstration of 15,000 workers gathered to protest in front of American legation at Stockholm, Sweden.

Labor unions of Montevideo (Uruguay) call for 24-hour general protest strike throughout country, denouncing Amreican imperialism.

Sacco-Vanzetti sympathizers demonstrate before U. S. consulate at Casablanca (Morocco) and burn American flag.



Mrs. Rose Sacco and her baby.

Madame Nungesser, mother of lost French flyer, cables Fuller asking him to listen to the earnest appeal of France for justice to Sacco and Vanzetti. Meetings throughout country; strikes in chief cities; no ship cleared Bordeaux, where every dock worker struck in protest.

French workers march on U. S. consulate in Cherbourg. Americans in Paris form committee to organize meeting of protest in favor of Sacco and Vanzetti.

Irish Labor Party, Irish Trade Union Congress, and Workers Party of Ireland, reiterate appeal for Sacco and Vanzetti.

Emanuel Vajtauer, recently deported to Checko-Slovakia form U. S., speaks at huge mass meeting in Prague for Sacco and Vanzetti general strike.

Mass meeting in Cape Town (S. Africa) demands reprieve for two persecuted Italians. Deputation of Communists and Labor Party chiefs visit American consulate to protest.

American Minister to Rumania William S. Cylbertson has been receiving numerous labor protests, despite the armed guard around his residence.

Police raid office of *Il Lavoratore*, Italian Communist weekly, for its support to cause of Sacco and Vanzetti.

Trade Union heads of Boston strike committee for Sacco and Vanzetti arrested in sudden raid of local police.

Active members of Workers (Communist) Party and I. W. W. seized in raid in Los Angeles, inspired by campaign for Sacco and Vanzetti conducted by them.

Nationwide protest strike called for by International Labor Defense, Sacco-Vanzetti Emergency Committee of New York, Trade Union Educational League, Workers (Communist) Party, Industrial Workers of the World, Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee, Sacco-Vanzetti Liberation Committee.

General protest strike called for in Buenos Aires (Argentine).

Alfred Dreyfus, victim of famous French frame-up, joins protest for Sacco and Vanzetti. Grandson of Lafayette adds his name to protest signed by leading Frenchmen, prominent in life, politics and letters.

Rote Hilfe of Germany, together with hundreds of other organizations hold protest meetings throughout country, with numerous clashes between the demonstrators and the police.

Municipal Council of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) adopts resolution of protest.

George McLean Harper, professor of English literature at Princeton University, declares Sacco and Vanzetti are innocent.

Luigia Vanzetti, sister of condemned man, leads demonstration of Parisian workers in protest against governor's decision.

Dr. Pierre Le Paulla, former lecturer at Harvard, and head of the round table on international law at Williamstown Institute of Politics denounces treatment of Sacco and Vangetti.

Canadian Labor Defense League organizes meetings throughout Canada at request of International Labor Defense.

Bishop Brent of New York receives appeal for Sacco and Vanzetti freedom from the Order of St. Francis of Assisi in Italy.

Mass meeting of Irish workers at Belfast demands freedom for two condemned workers.

Mass meeting in Plaza Colon in San Juan, Porto Rico, cables protest to Fuller.

Seven of principal Swiss towns urge freedom of Sacco and Vanzetti.

Four Polish workers arrested by police in front of American legation in Warsaw in attempt to discourage all demonstrations for Sacco and Vanzetti.

Opening session of convention of Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance and the Bartenders' International League of America, at Portland, passes resolution demanding liberation.

Hundreds of thousands of workers and peasants demand liberation of Sacco and Vanzetti in two days of meetings throughout the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.

## The Passaic Fight Is Still On

T is already a few months since the strike of the Passaic textile workers was officially brought to an end. But the heroic struggle that stirred the entire labor movement of this country, and brought into its ranks a fresh breath of life and renewed confidence in the vitality and militancy of the working class, did not actually terminate with the calling off of the strike. For, just as in all struggles of the workers, particularly when they are not brought to a successful issue, the more militant elements became the subject for victimization. A deliberate process was followed of choosing from the ranks of the textile fighters a number of workers, and on one flimsy pretext or another, sending them to prison, or victimizing them in a similar manner, in an effort to crush the spirit of the remaining workers, to discourage them from undertaking any struggles in the future.

Passaic is a clear an example of this as can be found. Despite a bitter fight by International Labor Defense, many of the strikers were sent to the New Jeresey prisons to serve inordinately long terms. Eight of them are now in prison—all of them on equally thin charges and testimonay. A number of them are soon to come to trial, and unless adequate measures are taken for their defense, they too will be deprived of their liberty for the crime of having challenged the domination and slave-rule of the textile barons.

International Labor Defense is doing all it can to help the families of these imprisoned fighters. In addition to sending \$5 each month to each of the prisoners, it has been sending \$20 monthly to their families. The workers must assist in this important work of solidarity. Contributions are urgently requested. The need is very keen and aid must come swiftly and generously. Send all funds to International Labor Defense.



Protecting the interests of the Passaic textile bosses during the strike.



Arresting a Passaic strike picket.

#### CONTRIBUTORS TO THE PLEDGE FUND

The following have pledged themselves to send \$5 monthly to class-war prisoners and \$20 to dependents.

Remember the class-war prisoners and their dependents!

INDIVIDUALS:
Estella Tarkoff, Boulder, Col.
Mrs. A. Kratofil, Norwalk, Ohio.
Joseph Wilson, Long Beach, Wash.
Albert Gerling, Madrid, Iowa.
The Siegel Family, Ontario, Calif.
Sophie Katz, Sanatorium, Colo.
Jens Jensen, Bridgeport, Conn.
Rae Berenbaum, Denver, Colo.
R. Bokolos, Zeigler, Ill.
Abraham Cronbach, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Alex Drajnik, Jr., Gary, Ind.
Louis A. Barnett, Newark, N. J.
A. N. Routhier, Detroit, Mich.
Anna Hammer, Roslindale, Mass.
Mike Paparelli, New York City.
I. E. Ferguson, Chicago.
C. Bodden, Philadelphia, Pa.
J. Smith, Philadelphia, Pa.
F. Winkler, Philadelphia, Pa.

Albert Sorteberg, Hudson, Wis.

I. L. D. BRANCHES:
Local Arden. Local Denver.

Local Arden. Local Denver. Local Perth Amboy. Local Passaic Local Canton. Local Avella.

Local Newberry, Mich.

Local Chicago: Barnett Branch, Billings Branch, Bulgarian Branch, Hungarian Branch, Cicero International Branch, Irving Park English Branch, Italian Branch, Northwest Jewish Branch, Karl Marx Branch, Lettish Branch, South Slavic Branch, Ukrainian Branch, Northwest Mothers' League.

Local Boston: Malden Branch, Roxbury Lettish Branch, Boston Lettish Branch, Roxbury Jewish Branch.

Local Detroit: Anti-Fascist Branch, Greek Branch, Hungarian Branch, Tom Mooney Branch, Lithuanian Branch, No. Ladies' Prog. Society Branch, Painters' Branch, South Slavic Branch, Scandinavian Branch,

Women's Branch.
I. D. Women's Educational Circle,
Bulgarian and Finnish branches.

East Side Polish Branch.

Local New York: Brownsville English
Branch, German Yorkville Branch, Lithuanian Brooklyn Branch, Richmond German

Local Cleveland: Slovak Branch, West Side Branch, Ukrainian Branch.

Side Branch, Ukrainian Branch.

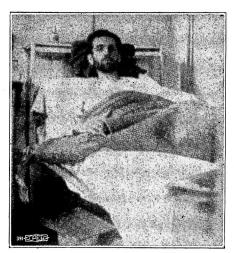
Local Philadelphia: Kensington Branch,
Lithuanian Branch.

Local Seattle: English Branch, Esthonian and Finnish Branch, Women's Educational League.

## From the Death Houses of Queen Marie

#### A Document of the Horrors of the Rumanian Siguranza

O N the 14th of November 1926 I was arrested on the street in Bukarest by the agents of the Siguranza.



An imprisoned Rumanian worker on hunger strike.

As I was active for more than ten years in the workers' agitation, first as editor of the German socialist paper *Der Kampf*, later as secretary of the trade union of Hermannstadt, I was well known to the Siguranza and like other hundreds and thousands of Rumanian workers I was prosecuted for being a Communist.

There existed absolutely no legal reasons for my arrest, all the less as on account of family affairs, during the last two years I had lived in foreign countries. I had only returned to Rumania recently.

No criminal deed contrary to the existing, though reactionary, laws of the country could be indicated against me, for during all my work in Rumania I participated in the combat of the Rumanian working people for the relief from their economic slavery and to repeal the total absence of political rights. Nevertheless I was kept in prison and was forced to stay in the Siguranza prison in Bukarest for one long month, without my case being taken to the law courts or even to the court martial. That would have been in comformity with the existing laws.

In the first days of my imprisonment a declaration was submitted to me composed and written by the inspector Banciulescu, with the order to sign it. This declaration contained nothing but a long series of inventions and false representations. Among the rest, there was written that I, being a member of the Central Committee of the Com-

munist Party of Rumania, had led illegal Communist actions together with Koblos Elek, Boris Stefanoff, Pavel Tkaschenko, Moses Kahana and others. great number of meetings was mentioned, protocols were quoted, all of which I had not the slightest idea about. It was evident that all these dates were invented and falsified. These well known leaders of the Communist Party and I were designated as being the authors and propagators of all illegal pamphlets, books, papers and circulars of the Rumanian revolutionary action, which were discovered by the Siguranza two years ago.

With the aid of falsified letters and protocols this declaration invented the existence of a secret organization, first,



Bloody Queen Marie in mourning, but not for the imprisoned or murdered workers and peasants of Rumania.

between the abovementioned revolutionists and me, secondly, between a great number of well known leading workers and intellectuals of the Trade Union Action — "the workers and peasants bloc"—the League for Human Rights and the Anti-Terror League in Rumania. The declaration accused all these persons of being participants in a large united conspiracy.

This declaration was presented to me with the order to sign it. But I refused to sign this tissue of lies. To extort from me this signature I was continually tortured for long weeks by the inspector of police Munteanu, by Sion and some detectives. Night after night I was beaten with rubber cudgels

#### - By WILLY ROTH

on the naked body until I fainted. The soles of my feet were treated with sticks and wet ropes. The general inspector of the Siguranza, Dumitri Vladimirescu himself led this action and participated in torturing me. He ordered them to undertake everything that would force me to sign, and was meant by "everything" was explained to me by a detective who said that I would not escape alive if I refused to sign. I was openly threatened with death.

To escape the fate of Pavel Tkatchenko, who a few months before had been tortured and murdered by the agents of the Siguranza, I signed the declaration.

To hide wounds inflicted by the tortures, though ill, I was kept isolated in the rooms of the Siguranza building. While I was brought to the court martial I was lucky enough to escape. Since I was forced to hide myself up to this moment I only now find the possibility of appealing to the public.

I herewith declare: the declaration I signed at the Siguranza in Bukarest is a tissue of lies and contains quite a series of falsifications. I was forced to put my signature in being tortured and threatened with death. That is why this declaration is null and void.

At the same time the Bukarest joiner, J. Alexiu, was forced by the same means to sign a quite similar declaration. The president of the Rumanian Lawyers Union, D. Dobrescu, reactionary member of parliament, published in the papers that this workingman's body bore the traces of fearful torture.

That proves: these declarations



Flogging a Rumanian class war prisoner.

served for the set purpose and, considering what recently occured in Rumania, this purpose is evident. The minister of labor, Trancu-Jassy, recently presented a memorial to the public prosecutors, demanding the dissolution of the trade union which counts 40,000 members, arguing that the trade unions developed an acticity dangerous to the state. The combative worker organizations affiliated to the Trade Unions ought to be abolished. hundreds of their leaders ought to be

taken to court martial and thrown into prison. To realize this plan it is necessary to produce "complots" in which there should be implicated all the leaders of the Trade Union and other legal organizations, which are struggling against the terrorism of the Rumanian Hierarchy (League for Human Rights, Anti-Terror League). On account of producing such means of proof against the organziations and to gain a pretext for extirpation, violence was done to me as well as to the worker Alexiu,

and just as Alexiu published the story of these events in the Rumanian press. I herewith invalidate the declaration I signed. It is the sinister work of the Siguranza signed by me while I was threatened with murder. That is why this declaration has no legality at all.

(The above declaration was signed by Willy Roth, and the witnesses, Dr. Bruno Schönfeld and Ella Lehner, sealed by the notary public, Emanuel Tanneberger, in Vienna, whither Roth had fled from Rumania.—Editor.)

## A REBEL WORKER'S LIFE AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY By Eugene Barnett

Continued from Last Issue

WHEN I read of the Beverly Park incident, and of how Sheriff Don McRea had been one of the ringleaders in the beating up of those men, it made my blood boil to think of such barbarity in a country that had been held up to the rest of the world as the shining light of freedom, and after many of our ancestors had given their lives to make it so; then to think of a Sheriff, a man supposed to uphold the law, and to aprpehend law breakers that they may be punished in a lawful manner, taking part in mob violence, forcing men to run the gauntlet as the cannibals and the Indians used to do. It would make the blood run hot in the veins of any man that has a spark of manhood in him.

I saw how the police in Everett would not let anyone read the report of the Commission on Industrial Relations. So I sent for one. I wanted to see what it was. I worked with the woodsaw until Christmas, then I quit for the winter. After Christmas I got a job with a contractor, raising a ware-

house with screwjacks. There were five of us working for him, and as many of us knew as much about it as he did, and it was cold on the job and he was lazy anyway. He would sit in a saloon half a block away and play solo all day, while we worked.

The job lasted two weeks, and when it was finished he gave us all time cheques for the number of hours we had worked. There had been no agreement with us about how much we were to receive for our work, and the time cheques did not state the wage per hour or day. When he gave us the cheques he told us to take them to the man that owned the building we had been working on and he would pay us.

When we were going over to the other fellow's store, I called the other man's attention to the amount per hour not being specified, and told the fellows that if they would stick we would get 40 cents per hour. They said, "All right." The man who owned the building, owned a store there and we took the cheques in to him.

He looked them over and asked,

"How much per hour is this?"
I said, "Forty cents."

He looked at me, then asked one of the other fellows, "Is that right?"

"Yes," he answered.

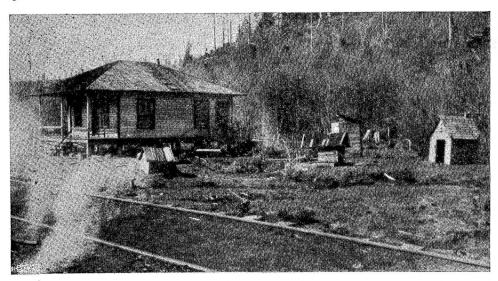
"That's pretty steep," he said and then wrote out the cheques. We took them to the bank and cashed them.

When the contractor took the contract it was for 60 cents an hour for himself and 30 for the men. That is how he figured it when he named his price. But he had not told the man how much to pay us so when he got his pay the fellow would only give him fifty cents an hour and he went wild when he saw me. He jumped me about it, and I told him he had no kick coming for he got ten cents an hour more than I did, and I worked and he didn't.

My wife was with me and his was with him; so he said, "Well, whether I work or not, I provide for my family better than you do for yours."

I told him that the men who worked for him, I for one, had to support their wives and his, too; that the more his wife got the less ours got, and the reason he was kicking now was because I took a little more for mine. Then he called me an I. W. W. and said he never did have any use for an I. W. W. and I told him I was not an I. W. W., but from what I knew of them, they had no use for any man who lived from the profits of other men's labor; and I had no use for him either.

I have told you this so that you might understand some of the events that follow. After that I could get no more work till April, but I took an agency for pocket knives and made a little living selling them. The Everett trial was coming up, so I got a sub book, and took all the subscriptions I could get for the Industrial Worker, and all winter long the contractor was



The kind of houses workers live in in the West.

telling that I was an I. W. W. and would not work.

When I got the report of the Commission on Industrial Relations, I found that it was the report of a committee appointed by President Wilson to investigate the conditions in industry, and try to find the cause of industrial unrest. It was authorized by an act of congress, August 23, 1912, and was composed of nine persons, three of them employers of labor, and three of them representatives of organized labor. The investigation covered a period of six months, and one or more hearings were held in each of the following cities: Washington, New York, Paterson, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, Lead, S. D., Butte, Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Denver, and Dallas. The witnesses were not confined to these localities, however, but in every case the best informed persons were brought before the committee and examined.

In all seven hundred and forty witnesses were examined. After all of these witnesses were examined a report was made of the findings of the committee. In making the report not only were only proved facts embodied in it, but only the proved and undisputed ones

were used, and this was what the authorities at Everett said could not be read on the streets. They did not want the workers to know such truths as these:

That the workers in the manufacturing industries received four percent less of the net product of their toil in 1909 than they did in 1889; the net product is the difference between the cost of the raw material and the finished product. Seventy-nine percent of the fathers of the working class earned less than a living wage. Only one-fourth of them could support their families without the earnings of other members of the family; thirty percent of the families kept boarders.

Another evidence of how poor the class that produces everything is, is the number of pauper burials, for so repugnant is the idea to workers of all races that rather than see a relative or friend buried in the "Potters Field," they will sacrifice anything they have, or even go into debt. But. nevertheless, in the big cities, one out of twelve corpses is buried at the expense of the city or turned over to physicians for dissection.

Another thing: the children of the poor die at the rate of 256 per thousand, before they are one year old, as com-

pared with 84 per thousand in the fairly well to do families. Thus, one out of four of the babies of the poor die and 12 to 20 percent of their children are noticeably underfed and illnourished. In 1910 there were 37 rented farms out of each 100 in the United States and 19 percent of all the farm land in the United States is held by less than 1% of the farm owners. These holdings are farms of 1,000 acres and over each, and only 18.7 percent of them are in cultivation. More than four-fifths of the area of the large holdings are held out of active use by their fifty thousand owners, while 2,250,000 farmers are struggling for a bare existence on farms of less than fifty acres.

These are all undisputed facts just as I got them from the Industrial Relations Committee's report, and I could tell you many more, but you can get a copy of the report at any progressive book store, and read it for yourself. Of course, it was printed before the war, and the figures would be much higher now, for conditions are much worse now, even if the war did produce 23,000 new millionaires in the United States, or one for each four of the men who gave their life on the bloody fields of France for something we did not get.

To Be Continued.

# Voices Prison

#### A Passaic Prisoner

Trenton, N. J.

James J. Cannon, Chicago, Illinois.

Your letter of the 22nd and money received and thankful for same. But, dear brother, what I would like to impress on you is that it is my wife and three children that are in need of assistance as I have just got a letter from my wife telling me that they have got nothing to eat and as I am not guilty of the charge I am in prison for, it is hard enough for me to take the punishment without my poor children and wife suffering even if I was guilty. Now, brother, I have a house and it has mortgage and as I have been in prison for ten months and have paid \$33 a month as long as I had the mony but I have not paid any for five months, I am looking any time to be notified that it will be foreclosed and proceedings taken against it and I would like to know if there is any way that the International Labor Defense can assist me to to save my home or receive a fair price for it if it must be sold as I would like to be sure that my family should not be in need while I am here as I still have two years to serve yet. Now, brother, I am sending you my wife's address: Filomena Ozanuk, 29 Semel Avenue, Garfield, N. J. So if you see fit to make any inquiries I certainly invite any and ali. Let me say since I bought the lots and built my home the value of the property surely has increased as there has been a school built across the street from it. So, brother and comrade, I hope that you will look into the property and see to the best of your ability that my wife and children don't suffer as I don't care for myself presonally as I expect such. My children's ages are 4, 6 and 9 years of age, two of them young girls. So you will find enclosed slip signed for money hoping that you will give me an early reply after taking up my request in regards to whether my brothers and comrades can see their way to do anything for me, I remain,

Fraternally,
Paul Ozanuk.

#### Cornelieson

San Quentin, Calif.

International Labor Defense

Chicago

Dear Comrade Cannon:

Please find receipt for prisoners relief check for \$5.00. I wish to thank all the comrades and brothers for the fine work they are carrying on outside for those of us that happen to be unfortunate enough to be in the enemies' bands.

There is much unrest here at present as the place is somewhat upset, due to the changes that are taking place. There is a new warden to take charge on the first of September so that accounts for a great deal of the mixup here.

Well, all the labor boys in here are getting along with their little bit. We all expect to be out once again to see what it is like. Will close with best wishes to all the Brothers and Sisters that are with us in our fight.

Sincerely yours, John J. Cornelieson.

#### Mrs. Joseph Bellene

Dear Comrade:

I have received your letter and check.

I cannot write it in the words how much I thank you for helping us out. Have been doing the best I could with the few dollars I have been receiving from the Passaic Committee of Hungarian ILD, Passaic.

Our conditions are getting much better than it has been six months ago.

I do a little sewing for the children and myself. I am doing the best I can to make ends meet. I will be thankful for what you can do for us. I have received a few clothes

for the children but the work is very bad out here.

An I thank you very, very much for the check that I received for Christmas. It helped me and the children a great deal.

I am going to move into a cheaper rooms some day next week and then I will send you my new address.

Mrs. Josepa Bellene.

#### A Note

Our attention has been called to a letter from Eugene Barnett, one of the victims of the Centralia Raid, now in Walla Walla penitentiary, printed in the August 1927 issue of The Labor Defender, which seems to have caused a misunderstanding. We are informed that the General Defense Committee of the Industrial Workers of the World (of which Barnett is a member) in addition to sending to Comrade Barnett's family the \$20 monthly forwarded to the Defense Committee for him by International Labor Defense, sends an additional \$20 in behalf of the General Defense Committee itself.



#### CONTRIBUTIONS FOR JULY, 1927 15144 Fred Biedenkapp, Chicago, III...\$ 80.00 15145 Geo. Maurer, Loc. Chicago, III. 5.00 John Anttila, Aura, Mich. 15147 S. Melus, Polish Branch, Passaic, N. J.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 15148 E. Pekman, Sebastopol, 10.00 1.75 50.00 7.43 37.10 10.00 15154 Rose Baron, Loc. New OYrk... 15155 Estella Tarkoff, Boulder, Colo. 15156 Ben Lebitsky, Chicago, Ill...... 15157 Louis F. Weiss, Sr., Worcester, Mass... 20.00 1.00 6.00 4.00 15.75 6.00 1.00 Wash. 5.00 5.83 1.00 5165 Anna Porter, San Jose, Calif ... 1.00 15166 Harry Bellman, Milwaukee, 6.00 1.00 6.00 A. N. Routhier, Highland Pk., Detroit, Mich. 15170 F. J. Rappold, Erie, Pa. 15171 Margaret Helander, Plentywood, Mont. 15172 Alfred Johnson, Chicago, Ill.. 15173 Italian Political Refugees Def. 20.00 6.00 6.00 1.00 Committee, Philadelphia, Pa... 15174 John Vokman, Wilmington, 100.00 Del. 2.00 Del. 15175 Julius Dater, Louisville, Ky... 15176 Wm. Kastilian, Scranton, Pa... 15177 Carpenters Union No. 316, San Jose, Calif. 15178 Oscar Wilson, Finnish Workers Club, New York, N. Y. 15179 John Avert, Ukrah, Calif... 15180 Nick Varovich, Akron, Ohio... 15181 A. Badurina, Raymond, Wash. 15182 Vasil Nicholas, Jamestown, N. Y. 2.60 8.00 5.00 20.00 7.00 6.00 1.00 6.00 15183 M. Newcombe, Arden, Del .....

#### 100,000,000 FOR SACCO AND VANZETTI

Continued from page 131

two tortured workers is the cause of all the oppressed and persecuted; that the same increasingly crushing power, American imperialism, that seeks to assassinate Sacco and Vanzetti, is the one that is extending its harsh domination over ever new millions of people.

From no other viewpoint can be explained the heroic picture of literally millions in every country fighting the battle of Sacco and Vanzetti as ardently as if it were their own. For it is their own battle, their own cause whose defeat is their defeat, whose victory is their victory. And it is a powerful army that fights the battle, for its numbers cannot be counted in hundreds, or in thousands; for tens of millions have enrolled under its flag. At least one hundred million people throughout the world have spoken for Sacco and Vanzetti. They are a host that fights in different tongues and with different weapons. Here it is a demonstration in front of an American consulate in a French seaport; there it is a city-wide general protest strike that startles a whole nation; elsewhere it is a boycott of American goods; in still other lands it assumes the form of such a popular movement that almost the whole people speaks its condemnation with one voice.

But different as may be its weapons and tongues, it has but one aim, one battlecry: Life and Freedom for Sacco and Vanzetti!

Strong as may be the autocratic enemy, our movement is also strong; it needs only clarity to make stronger, invincible, for it has the strength of the millions!

Bold as brass the voice of the executioner calls for its victims. But above that voice rises the voice of the hundred millions:

Life and Freedom for Sacco and Vanzetti!

to Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee at Boston.

weapo	ins. There it is a demonstrati	ion in	v unze	alli:	
	J. Jensen, Bridegport, Conn Katharine Krotofil, Norwalk,	5.00	15221	Peter Dundon, Machinist Local No. 390, Chicago, Ill	6.00
15106	Ohio	10.00	15222	Walter S. Mitchell, San Diego,	
15186	Willis L. Wright, Great Falls, Mont.	6.00	15223	Calif D. Yonnsh, Scotia, N. Y	3.00 6.00
15187	Mrs. F. M. Nagle, Wesley-	0.00	15224	M. Krasic, SoSlavic Section,	0.00
	ville, Pa.	5.00		Chicago, Ill.	75.00
	Rose Baron, Local New York.	$\frac{6.00}{1.00}$	15225	S. Hillkowitz, San Diego,	10.00
	Wm. F. Miller, Chicago, Ill Carl Miller, Chicago, Ill	3.00	15226	Calif Bakers Union, Local 3,	10.00
	Edgar Owens, Local San Fran-	3.00	17220	Brooklyn, N. Y	6.00
	cisco, Calif.	6.00	15227	F. M. Hdasell, Winchester, Va.	1.00
15192	August Schnebelen, Philadel-	2.00	15228	Edmando Abbati, Chicago, Ill.	6.00
15102	phia, Pa.	3.00 1.00	15229	Mary B. Trask, London,	0.00
15193	Charles Kondla, Paterson, N. J. Helen N. Yeskevich, Brook-	1.00	15230	Jennie G. Kandracs, Gary, Ind.	8.00 3.00
17171	lyn, N. Y	5.00	15231	Charlotte Anita Whitney,	5.00
15195	J. H. Jensen, Los Angeles,			Oakland, Calif.	6.00
15106	Calif.	5.00	15232	Otto A. Krampetz, Yonkers,	
15196	Anna Hammer, Roslindale,	1.00	15222	N. Y.	6.00
15197	Mass Veronica Kovacs, Local Perth	1.00	15233	Henry Siroky, St. Louis, MoPaul Kasley, Cary, Ind.	6.00 2.75
	Amboy, N. J.	6.00	15235	Mrs. Walter Richter, Good	2.73
15198	John A. Wall, Tacoma, Wash.	6.00		Hope Farm, Clear Lake, Wisc	1.00
	Benj. Ostrow, Baltimore, Md	6.00	15236	M. S. Alderton, Santa Clara	
	Erick Sjolie, Alborn, Mon V. Lettier, Albany, N. Y	6.00 6.00	15237	County, Calif Stephen Kuboviak, Racine,	1.00
15202	Louis Ravasio, Brooklyn, N.Y.	6.00	1727	Wisc	2.00
15203	Nick J. Spanos, Cotton, Utah.	10.00	15238	J. Markens, Moline, Ill.	3.00
15204	Sophie Katz, Chicago, Ill	5.00	15239	Cora Meyer, Local Milwaukee,	
	A. Marcelia, Neffs, Ohio	6.00	15040	Wis.	6.00
	Anonymous Donation Joe Merica, Grand Haven,	1.00	15240	Frank Spector, Local Los Angeles, Calif.	6.00
17207	Mich.	7.00	15241	Sam Shear, Cincinnati, Ohio	6.00
15208	S. Melus, Polish Branch,		15242	P. Novas, Chicago, Ill.	5.00
	Passaic, N. J.	11.00	15243	Mrs. Siegel, Mothers' League,	
15209	Robert Zelms, New England	10.00	15244	Chicago, III.	4.00
15210	Antonio Lopes Alves, Danbury,	10.00	15244	E. Kunsela, Ashtobula, Ohio Alex Lekoff, Spokane, Wash	6.80 8.00
1,210	Conn.	6.50	15246	Peter Hattikamen, Oakland,	0.00
15211	Chas. Choma, Scranton, Pa	12.00		Calif.	1.50
15212	R. Posner, Sanitorium, Colo	2.00	15247	Otto Olson, Kalispell, Mont	5.00
15213	A. N. Routier, Highland Park, Detroit, Mich.	40.00	15248	Irving Ruderman, E. Orange,	4.00
15214	Philip Di Giambattista,	10.00	15249	N. J. Earnest Hill, New Castle, Pa	1.00
	Local Avella, Pa.	5.00	15250	Louis Barall, Philadelphia, Pa.	2.00
	Dan Gulachy, Gary, Ind	6.00	15251	Steve Yatsko, Gary, Ind	1.25
15216	Otto Olson, Kalispell, Mont.	6.00	15252	Touristen Verein, Oakland,	605
15212	John Doyle, Wilmerding, Pa W. N. Patterson, Zanesville, O.	5.00 6.00	15252	Calif	6.25
15219	The Siegel Family, Ontario,	0.00	17477	Total\$	944.76
	Calif.	1.00			
15220	Margaret Stresow, Central Islip,		NO?	TE. Checks totaling \$13.43 for	rwarded

6.00

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